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(54) Title: **ASTHMA SUSCEPTIBILITY LOCUS**

(57) Abstract: The present invention describes a susceptibility locus which is functionally related to asthma. The locus maps within human chromosome 7p15-p14. The invention also describes a novel human gene, GPRA. The invention provides diagnostic methods and materials for analysing allelic variation in said locus and the GPRA gene. The invention also provides polypeptides encoded by GPRA gene and antibodies binding to said polypeptides. The invention further provides pharmaceutical compositions for the treatment of asthma, other IgE-mediated disease, chronic obstructive pulmonary disease or cancer.